

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, August 16, 1878, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. Friday, August 16th. 1878. My darling Alec:

Please write or telegraph at once to Max Muller about those lectures. Mamma has telegraphed engaging the rooms on the Abyasinia, but if you decide at once on remaining for the lectures, will take these on the Algeria and if you don't decide at once it will be too late. So please telegraph to Muller at once and telegraph result to us. I do so want you to give those lectures.

Your telegram to Mamma arrived half an hour ago I am so glad you are so far safely on your journey. Your boots are standing right forward in the room (parlor) and look so as though you ought to come and put them on. My darling I do miss you dreadfully already and shall be so glad when I see you once more. But I know it is much, very much better that you should go to Dublin, and am thankful you should have a respite from care and anxiety. You have had more than your share. Can't you send Morgan Brown his cheque. That is the most pressing the rest will keep. That one is so peremptory it might look as though you had run away from it, when it is no such thing. When you have paid that I think you may enjoy yourself and remember you have not gone for play merely, but good hard work, to brush up your wits against those of the foremost men of Europe that you may return refreshed and brightened for a winter full of results.

It is lovely here this noon after the storm of the night and early morning I do hope you will have a smooth passage and not be seasick. Tell us all about your visit. And I tell you what -Supposing you write down in your letters the account not only of all you have done, but heard and thought and seen the remarks of scientific men and the ideas they or things have suggested. You know I am always interested 2 in what you tell me and if the others

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are not why they need not read those parts of the letters. Thus you will have a complete journal which will be useful to you afterwards and the fact of writing to me will help to make the work pleasant. Will it not?

I don't think their baby is one quarter so pretty as ours, her nose is twice as big I am sure, and her eyes smaller. Berta pretends to admire her fair skin and blue eyes but I always did prefer dark eyes and skin and thats what Elsie will have, and I think Berta says so merely to provoke me.

Mamma and Berta have gone to that place to look for rooms. Sister is on the sofa working on her new mats and I am going on with my tidy now. Baby is sleeping.

With ever so much love to you my own darling,

Ever yours, May. Take good care of yourself and don't sit up beyond one.